

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

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DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH

<http://dmh.lacounty.gov>

550 SOUTH VERMONT AVENUE, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90020

Reply To: (213) 738-4601
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May 10, 2011

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**APPROVE EXPENDITURES FOR
THE TWELFTH ANNUAL MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION
PROFILES OF HOPE
VOLUNTEER AND PROGRAM RECOGNITION AWARDS
(ALL SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS)
(3 VOTES)**

SUBJECT

Request approval to expend funds to host and conduct the Twelfth Annual Mental Health Commission Profiles of Hope Volunteer and Program Recognition Awards to be held on May 26, 2011, at the Catalina Grill.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

1. Authorize the Department of Mental Health (DMH) to expend funds to host and conduct the Twelfth Annual Mental Health Commission (Commission) Profiles of Hope Volunteer and Program Recognition Awards to be held on May 26, 2011, at an estimated cost of \$7,000.
2. Authorize the Director of Mental Health, or his designee, to execute an Agreement with the Catalina Grill for site technical support and catering services for the program, and to make a payment to the Catalina Grill, or its designee, at a total estimated cost of \$7,000.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

Board approval of the recommended actions will allow DMH to host and conduct the Twelfth Annual

Profiles of Hope Volunteer and Program Recognition Awards. The event is scheduled for May 26, 2011, at the Catalina Grill.

The Commission's Annual Volunteer and Program Recognition Awards is the sole opportunity for the Commission to recognize and honor outstanding members of the mental health community.

The Commission, by law, is comprised of 51 percent clients and family members appointed by your Board to advocate for the thousands of men, women and children who face mental illness. Stigma is the single greatest challenge that mental health clients face. This event provides an important opportunity to showcase that hope, wellness and recovery are possible and to acknowledge those who have dedicated their mind, heart and soul to supporting and advocating for individuals with mental illness.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The recommended actions support the County's Strategic Plan Goal 4, Health and Mental Health.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

The estimated cost of the event is \$6,600, fully funded by Realignment revenue. The amount covers catering services for 100 consumers, 10 students, 30 commissioners, and 10 staff. There are no costs associated with honorariums or supplies. Sufficient appropriation is included in the FY 2010-11 Final Adopted Budget.

There is no net County cost.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

Since 2003, DMH and the Commission have sponsored an Annual Volunteer and Program Recognition Awards. This event unites clients and family members, community representatives and agencies, and acknowledges volunteers who have increased value to their lives by donating their time to serving mental health clients. This is an award's program for 150 attendees. Catering services are needed because many of the consumers and students attending the program do not have the financial resources to pay for food. Serving lunch at the conference also provides consumers/students with the opportunity to network and share personal resources.

Annually, DMH celebrates May as Mental Health Month. The Commission selects this time because it provides an opportunity to support DMH in its mission to reinforce the power of hope and positive thinking and provide an environment that envisions solutions to the many challenges of having a mental illness. Volunteers provide many unique and transformative resources to consumers that support their journey to wellness and recovery.

CONTRACTING PROCESS

DMH solicited costs from three locations and determined that the Catalina Grill was the preferred location based on availability, cost, size of accommodations and transportation needs. The Catalina

Grill prohibits the use of outside catering services and provides catering services.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

This commemorative event offers DMH an opportunity to showcase and reward selected programs and individuals that have improved the lives of those affected with mental illness.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mg Southard", written in a cursive style.

MARVIN J. SOUTHARD, D.S.W.
Director of Mental Health

MJS:LG:TL:tl

c: Chief Executive Officer
County Counsel
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
Chairperson, Mental Health Commission